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WHO OWNS THE LAND?
A PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES

ESCS Staff Report NRED 80-10

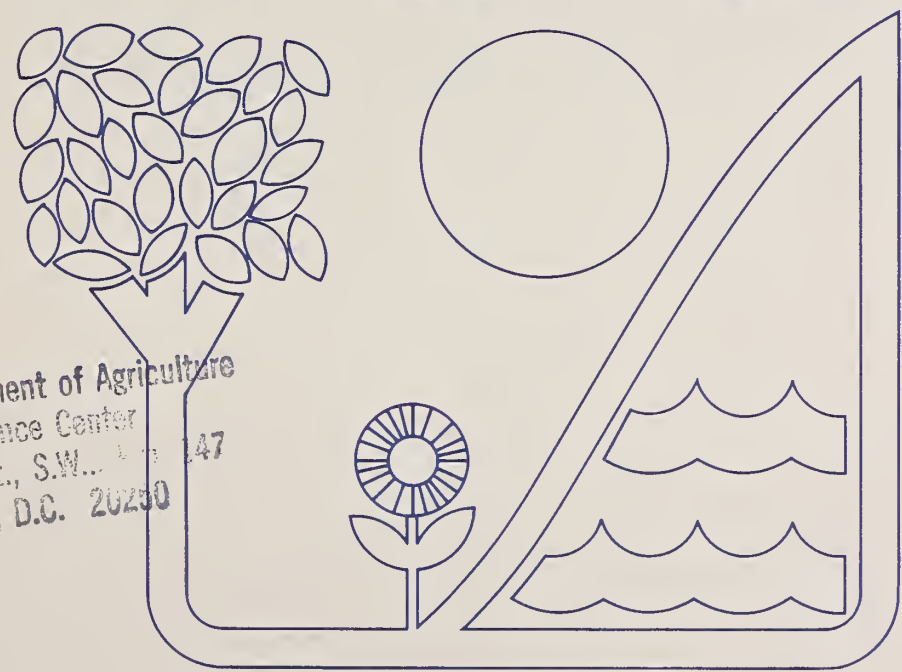
Douglas G. Lewis

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WHO OWNS THE LAND?

A PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES

ESCS Staff Report NRED 80-10

Douglas G. Lewis

Natural Resource Economics Division
Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service
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Washington, D.C. 20250

August 1980

WHO OWNS THE LAND? A PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES. By Douglas G. Lewis; Natural Resource Economics Division, Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C. 20250; August 1980.

ABSTRACT

Farmers and farm managers are the largest single group of owners in the sixteen southern states; they own 36 percent of all private noncorporate holdings and almost 43 percent of land in farms, according to a 1978 ESCS survey of privately owned farm and ranch land, other rural land, and urban land. Sole proprietorships and husbands and wives own 72 percent of all farmland; the largest 1 percent of all ownership units own half of all privately held land; and about 75 percent of the land is owned by people over 45 years old. The report also characterizes landownership by race, sex, method and date of acquisition, residence, and education.

Key Words: Land; ownership; landownership data; statistical summary; Southern U.S.

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*      This paper was prepared for limited distribution      *
*      to the research community outside the U.S. Depart-    *
*      ment of Agriculture.                                    *
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WHO OWNS THE LAND? A PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES

Introduction

In 1978, the Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture conducted a nationwide survey of the owners of privately held land. More than 37,000 individuals, partnerships, and corporations were surveyed in an effort to learn more about ownership patterns on 1.35 billion acres of privately owned U.S. land. The survey covered farm and ranch land, other rural land uses, and urban land. In addition to privately owned land, the Federal, state, and local governments own almost 900 million acres.

This report summarizes selected ownership patterns in the South which includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. These states contain about 520.3 million acres of privately owned land held by about 14.0 million ownership units. Public lands comprise only about 40 million acres in the South, a relatively small part of the total land in the region. The tables and figures accompanying this report provide detail and highlight relationships between landownership and occupation of owners, type of owners, their race, age, sex, education, residence, and method and time of land acquisition.

Why the Survey?

The land and how its various owners use or abuse it is vitally important to the American public and decisionmakers in government. ESCS will closely

analyze the data from the new survey to help the public better understand how decisions made by landowners affect the environment, food and fiber supplies, employment, distribution of wealth and income, resource development, and the competition for land and water resources. One important use of the coming analysis will be to help design government programs which affect land use, such as conservation, farm production, supply management, credit, and technical assistance programs. The ownership data can be correlated with soils and land use data, thereby providing information about ownership patterns on prime agricultural lands.

Survey Highlights

Occupation

Farmers, a relatively small group of owners, own about 36 percent of all noncorporate land and almost 43 percent of the noncorporate farmland in the South (tables 1 and 3, figure 1). Retired persons and white collar workers each own about 19 percent of all land and about the same proportion of farmland. Blue collar workers make up about one fourth of the ownership units of noncorporate land and own about 10 percent of all land and farmland. About 14 percent of all noncorporate owners did not list an occupation; 5 percent of the farmland owners failed to list an occupation. The two largest states in the region, Texas and Oklahoma, along with Maryland, had the highest proportion of land owned by farmers (tables 2 and 4). Retired persons were the group owning the most land in Alabama, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

Type of Owner

Sole proprietors and husband-wife ownerships are the dominant type in the South (tables 5 and 7, figure 2). About 90 percent of all ownership units are

sole proprietors or husband-wife. They own 64 percent of all land and 70 percent of the farmland in the South. Family partnerships are also common in the South, especially in Texas. Few ownership units are corporations in the South (tables 5 and 7) but several states have large corporate holdings. Among them are Florida, 48 percent; Louisiana, 41 percent; and Arkansas, South Carolina, and West Virginia, each with 24 percent (table 6). About one-third of the farmland in Florida is corporately owned (table 8). Non-family corporations are the largest type of owner in Florida and Louisiana.

Size of Holding

One percent of the ownership units with the largest holdings (a unit can be an individual, a partnership, or a corporation) own about half of all privately owned land in the South (table 10). At the opposite end of the size spectrum, 77 percent of all owners own only about 4 percent of the land. Many of these small parcels are residential or commercial in use. There is much less concentration of land holdings among owners of farm and ranch land. The largest 1 percent own about 31 percent of the land (table 12). Concentration of land-ownership is apparent in Florida; Kentucky, Delaware, and Maryland have slightly less concentrated ownership than other states.

Race

About 80 percent of the landowners in the South are white; they own almost 89 percent of the land (table 13), and dominate in every state. Blacks comprise 8 percent of the owners and they control over 2 percent of the land. Black landownership is concentrated most heavily in Mississippi, Alabama, and South Carolina (table 14). Little land is owned by other races in the South. American Indians own about 4 percent of the privately owned land in Oklahoma. About 10 percent of all owners did not list their race.

Age

Almost 75 percent of the land is held by owners who are 45 years or older (table 15, figure 3). Owners under 35 own less than 5 percent of the land. Older owners tend to have larger holdings as well. Owners 65 years and over own one-third of the noncorporate land in Alabama, Louisiana, and Tennessee (table 16). About 13 percent of the noncorporate owners did not list their age.

Sex

About three-fourths of the owners in the South were identified as males; however this statistic does not fully recognize ownership participation by females through husband-wife holdings and family partnership (table 17). About 25 percent of the privately owned land is held by husbands and wives jointly (see table 5). The greatest share of land owned by females in the South is 21 percent in North Carolina (table 18).

Method of Acquisition

Purchase is the dominant means of acquiring land in the South. Almost 52 percent is purchased from nonrelatives; over 12 percent is purchased from relatives (table 19, figure 4). Almost 21 percent was inherited. However, owners tend to acquire the largest tracts through inheritance. Acquisition from relatives is most prevalent in North Carolina, Mississippi and Texas, where almost 40 percent of the privately owned land is inherited or purchased from relatives (table 20). Florida has the lowest combined rate and the highest proportion of land acquired by purchase from nonrelatives. About 10 percent of the owners did not respond to methods of acquisition.

Date of Acquisition

About 24 percent of the privately owned land in the South has been acquired since 1970 while 16 percent has been in the same ownership since 1940 (table 21,

figure 5). In Louisiana, 28 percent of the land has been in the same ownership since 1940; by contrast, over 30 percent of the privately owned land in Kentucky and Delaware has been purchased since 1970 (table 22). Fourteen percent of the owners failed to list an acquisition date.

Residence

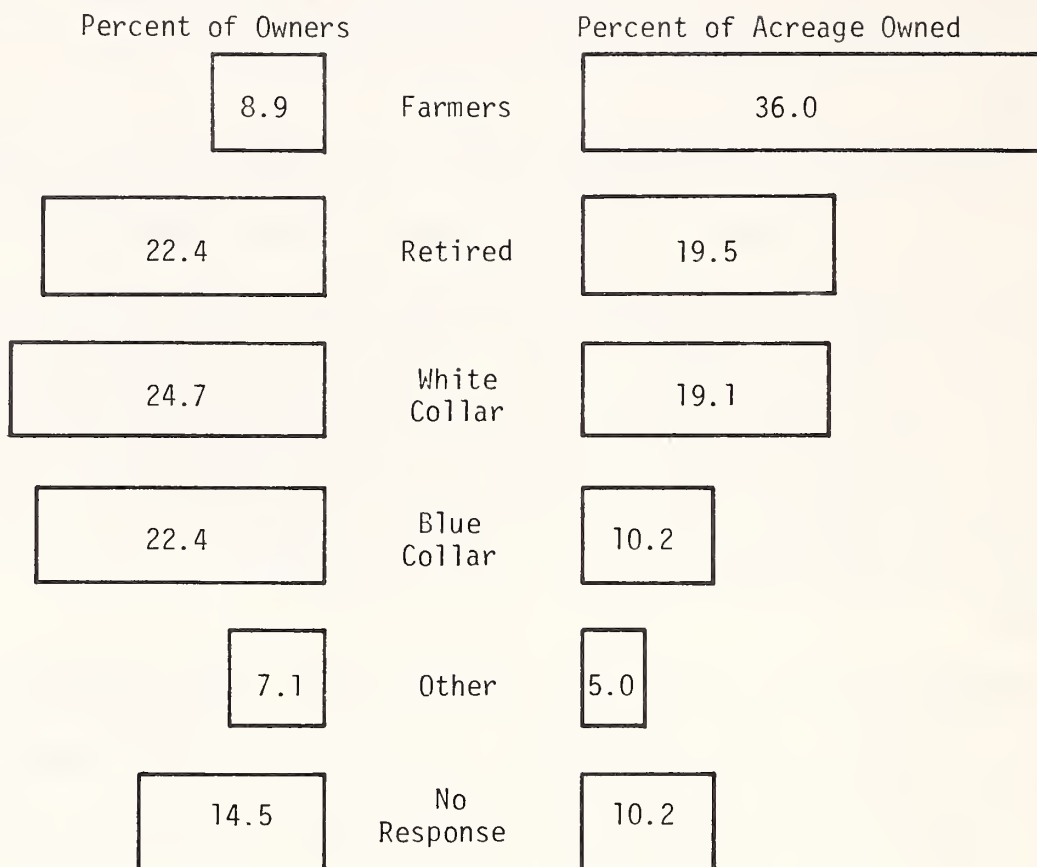
Over 84 percent of the ownership units in the South (who own 64 percent of the privately held land) reside or have their business headquarters in the same county as their reported holdings (table 23, figure 6). Less than .05 percent of the ownership units have their residence or corporate headquarters outside the United States. Florida and Louisiana have the lowest rate of ownership by residents of the same county in the South (table 24). None of the states had significant holdings by foreign residents.

Education

Landowners with 8 or fewer years of schooling own over 17 percent of the private, noncorporate land in the South, exceeded only by high school and college graduates with 21 and 20 percent, respectively (table 25, figure 7). However, the average size of holding increases with increases in the level of formal education of the owner. Landowners with 8 or fewer years of schooling own 25 acres; those who are college graduates own 43 acres of land. Kentucky and Tennessee have the highest proportion of land owned by owners with 8 or fewer years of schooling (table 26). Over 60 percent of the privately owned noncorporate land in Delaware, Florida, Mississippi, and Oklahoma is held by owners with at least 12 years of formal education.

Figure 1

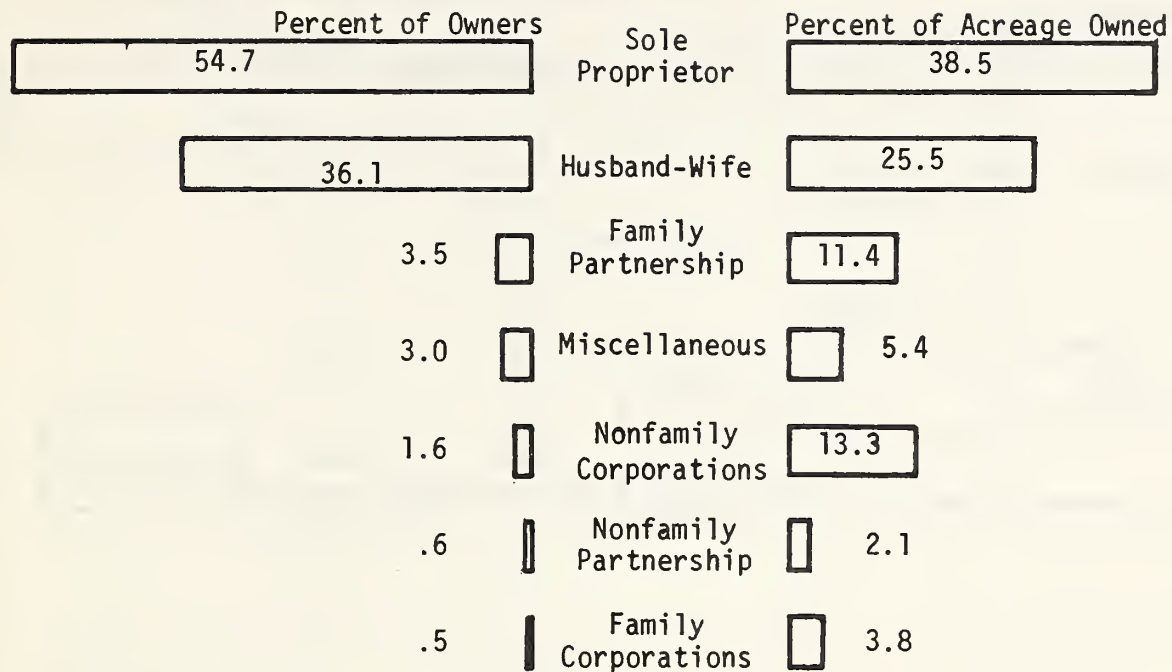
Occupation of Landowner, South



Other includes such occupations as military, homemaker, and unemployed.
Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 2

Type of Owner, South

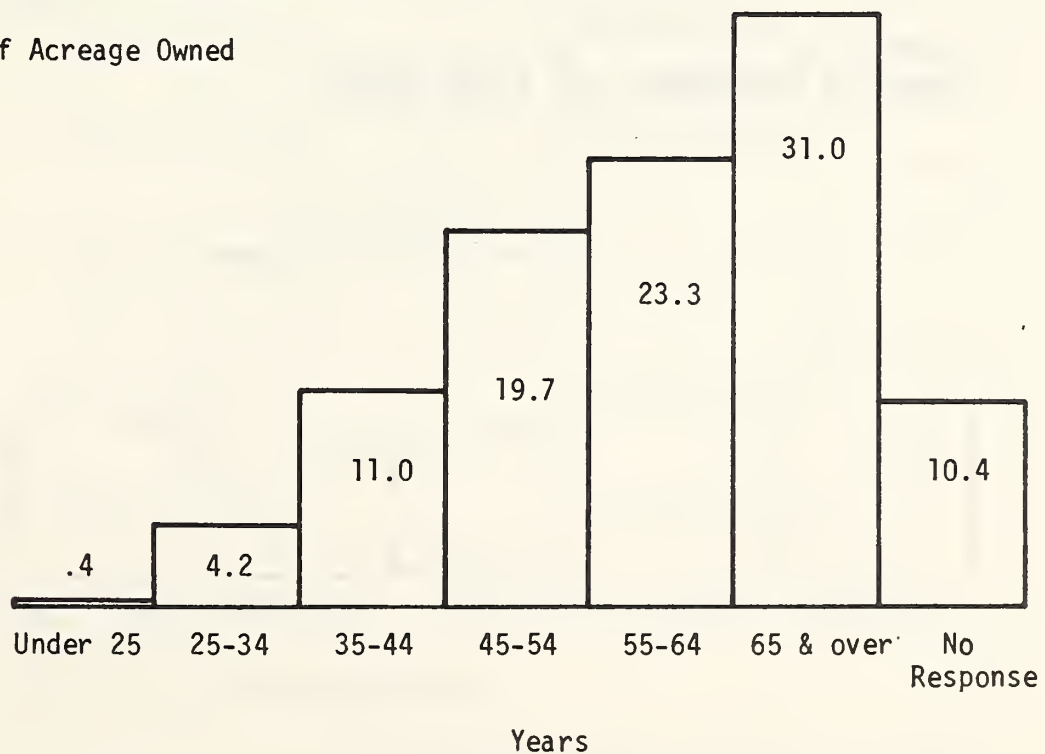


Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 3

Age of Landowners, South

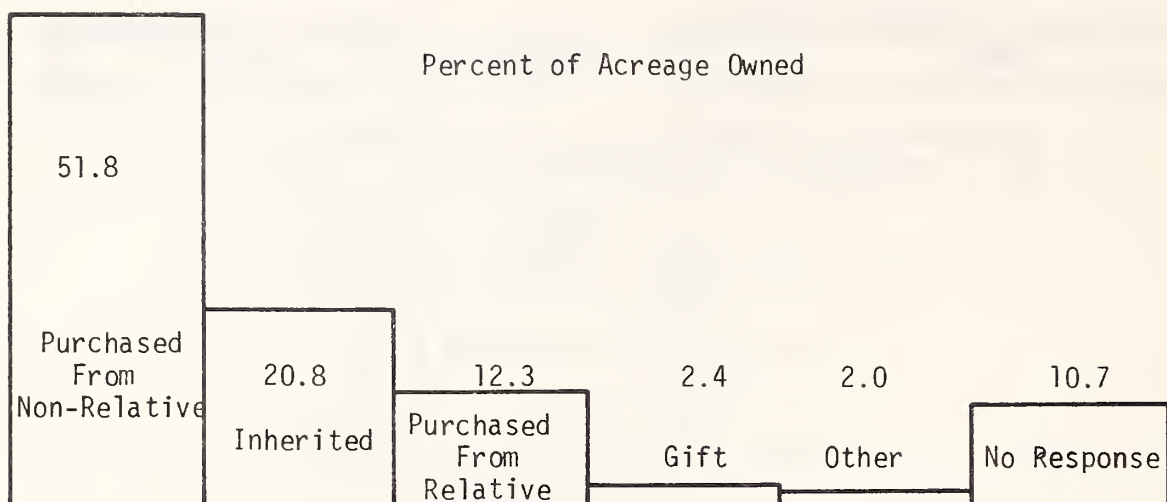
Percent of Acreage Owned



Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 4

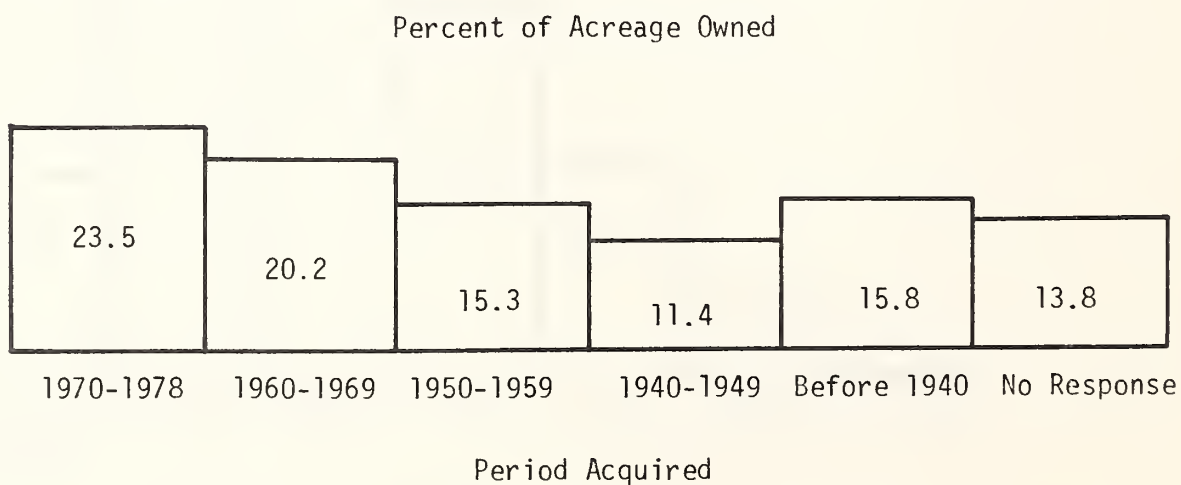
Method of Acquisition of Land, South



Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 5

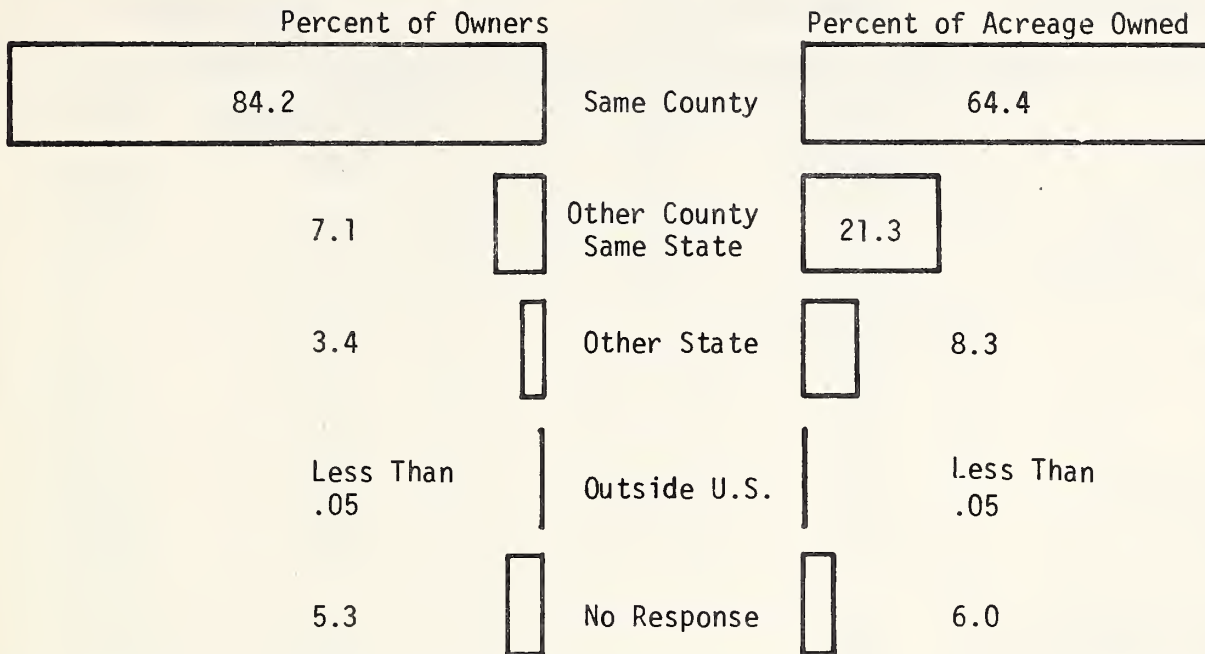
Period of Acquisition of Land, South



Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 6

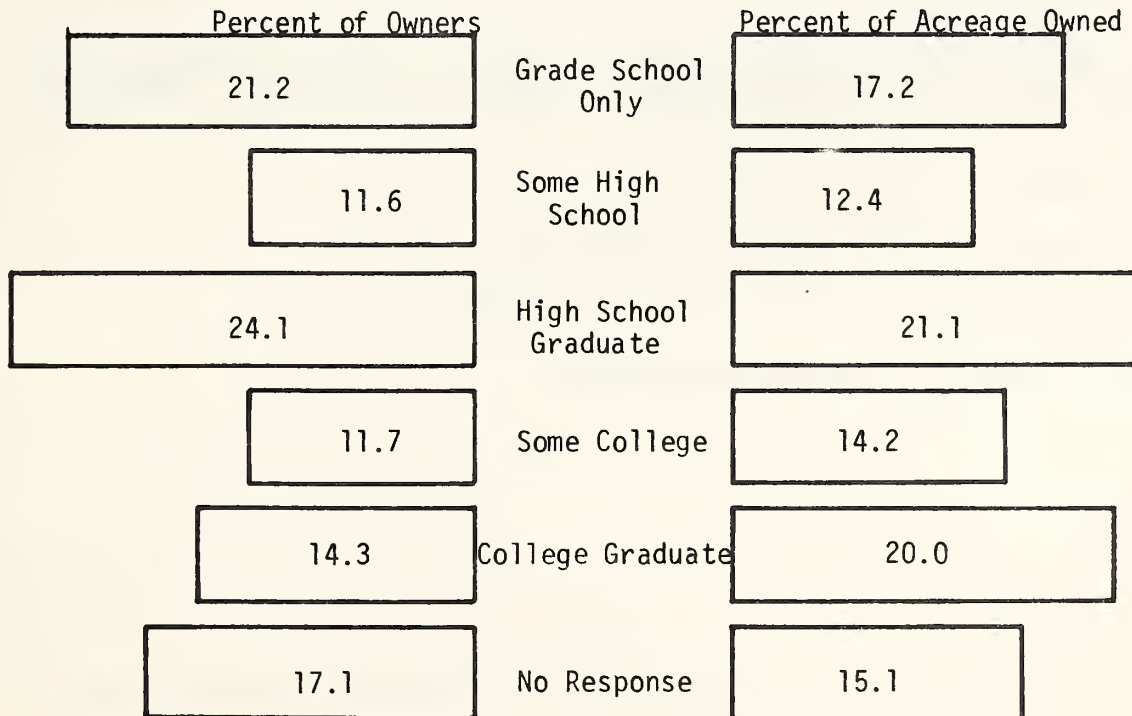
Residence of Landowner, South



Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Figure 7

Education of Landowner, South



Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 1--Occupation: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by occupation, South 1/

Occupation <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
Farming <u>3/</u>	1,190	8.9	146.7	36.0
White collar	3,293	24.7	77.9	19.1
Blue collar <u>4/</u>	2,997	22.4	41.7	10.2
Retired	2,998	22.4	79.6	19.5
Other	952	7.1	20.2	5.0
No response	1,932	14.5	41.5	10.2
Subtotal	13,362	100.0	407.6	100.0
Corporations and large partnerships	680	--	112.7	--
Total	14,042	--	520.3	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/Sole owner or principal partner.

3/Includes farm managers and farm laborers.

4/Includes private household and service workers.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 2--Occupation: State distribution of acres owned, all land,
by occupation 1/

State	Occupation						Total
	Farm- ing <u>2/</u>	White collar	Blue collar <u>3/</u>	Re- tired	Other	No response	
	Percent of acres						
Alabama	22.7	19.7	16.6	28.8	4.4	7.8	100.0
Arkansas	30.8	17.4	11.1	22.0	5.9	12.8	100.0
Delaware	40.0	15.9	13.2	16.4	6.2	8.3	100.0
Florida	29.7	28.0	10.0	13.4	8.2	10.7	100.0
Georgia	29.9	21.5	6.9	21.2	6.3	14.2	100.0
Kentucky	36.6	15.1	18.1	20.5	3.2	6.5	100.0
Louisiana	27.6	17.9	8.3	27.7	9.3	9.2	100.0
Maryland	38.5	21.7	10.7	15.5	.4	13.2	100.0
Mississippi	34.6	17.5	12.7	27.1	3.2	4.9	100.0
North Carolina	30.4	21.6	12.2	23.3	6.8	5.7	100.0
Oklahoma	42.0	15.3	6.9	19.1	5.4	11.3	100.0
South Carolina	22.9	22.7	15.4	23.4	5.3	10.3	100.0
Tennessee	24.7	18.9	16.4	26.3	4.8	8.9	100.0
Texas	46.8	19.4	5.6	13.3	3.8	11.1	100.0
Virginia	28.5	18.8	14.9	18.0	6.9	12.9	100.0
West Virginia	18.3	18.6	21.7	24.9	5.9	10.6	100.0
South	36.0	19.1	10.2	19.5	5.0	10.2	100.0
United States <u>4/</u>	46.0	15.0	9.1	17.2	4.5	8.2	100.0

1/Sole owner or principal partner.

2/Includes farm managers and farm laborers.

3/Includes private household and service workers.

4/Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 3--Occupation: Distribution of owners and acres owned,
farm and ranch land, by occupation, South 1/

Occupation <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	<u>Thous.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Million acres</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Farming <u>3/</u>	598	19.0	125.6	42.8
White collar	628	19.9	55.1	18.7
Blue collar <u>4/</u>	786	25.0	28.2	9.6
Retired	800	25.4	53.5	18.2
Other	178	5.7	12.3	4.2
No response	159	5.0	19.0	6.5
Subtotal	3,149	100.0	293.7	100.0
Corporations and large estates	91	--	37.9	--
Total	3,240	--	331.6	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/Sole owner or principal partner.

3/Includes farm managers and farm laborers.

4/Includes private household and service workers.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 4--Occupation: State distribution of acres owned, farm and ranch land, by occupation 1/

State	Occupation						Total
	Farm- ing <u>2/</u>	White collar	Blue collar <u>3/</u>	Re- tired	Other	No response	
	Percent of acres						
Alabama	28.2	18.3	19.2	26.6	3.1	4.6	100.0
Arkansas	38.6	15.4	11.8	20.7	5.2	8.3	100.0
Delaware	45.4	16.8	12.2	16.1	5.4	4.1	100.0
Florida	42.4	23.0	8.8	12.3	7.0	6.5	100.0
Georgia	37.1	18.2	8.0	20.9	5.9	9.9	100.0
Kentucky	42.0	15.7	16.7	17.7	2.8	5.1	100.0
Louisiana	39.1	17.7	9.2	27.4	5.2	1.4	100.0
Maryland	53.1	15.8	9.0	18.8	.3	3.0	100.0
Mississippi	38.3	18.7	13.8	23.4	3.3	2.5	100.0
North Carolina	36.3	19.4	11.1	22.8	6.1	4.3	100.0
Oklahoma	48.7	16.2	7.5	17.4	4.4	5.8	100.0
South Carolina	26.8	22.8	14.6	23.1	5.6	7.1	100.0
Tennessee	27.5	19.3	13.7	28.6	4.4	6.5	100.0
Texas	50.5	19.9	5.2	13.5	3.4	7.5	100.0
Virginia	37.1	16.9	17.1	18.3	5.5	5.1	100.0
West Virginia	24.0	21.1	22.8	19.5	5.5	7.1	100.0
South	42.8	18.7	9.6	18.2	4.2	6.5	100.0
United States <u>4/</u>	53.6	13.4	7.6	15.8	4.1	5.5	100.0

1/Sole owner or principal partner.

2/Includes farm managers and farm laborers.

3/Includes private household and service workers.

4/Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 5--Type of landowner: Distribution of ownership units and acres owned, all land, by owner type, South 1/

Owner type	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
Sole proprietor	7,680	54.7	200.6	38.5
Husband-wife	5,071	36.1	132.7	25.5
Family partnership	494	3.5	59.1	11.4
Nonfamily partnership	82	.6	10.9	2.1
Family corporation	63	.5	19.6	3.8
Nonfamily corporation	230	1.6	69.4	13.3
Miscellaneous	422	3.0	28.0	5.4
South	14,042	100.0	520.3	100.0
United States <u>2/</u>	33,749	--	1,347.3	--

1/ Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/ Revised, excludes Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 6--Type of landowner: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by owner type

State	Owner type								Total
	Sole Proprietor	Husband- wife	Family Partnership	Nonfamily Partnership	Family Corpora- tion	Nonfamily Corpora- tion	Miscellaneous		
Percent of acres									
Alabama	39.8	26.0	11.3	1.5	2.2	13.9	5.3	100.0	
Arkansas	34.5	28.6	9.8	.8	5.1	18.8	2.4	100.0	
Delaware	34.1	35.9	11.7	2.0	5.6	9.9	.8	100.0	
Florida	22.3	15.3	7.2	2.8	8.1	39.8	4.5	100.0	
Georgia	52.7	10.6	10.4	1.3	3.1	17.4	4.5	100.0	
Kentucky	42.5	37.5	10.1	1.6	1.2	5.1	2.0	100.0	
Louisiana	25.7	12.9	10.9	2.8	7.5	33.5	6.7	100.0	
Maryland	33.2	45.8	8.9	2.2	1.8	5.8	2.3	100.0	
Mississippi	48.0	19.1	9.9	2.3	4.3	14.1	2.3	100.0	
North Carolina	33.2	33.8	9.9	2.2	2.7	13.6	4.6	100.0	
Oklahoma	39.9	40.7	8.3	1.4	1.8	5.0	2.9	100.0	
South Carolina	47.2	10.7	10.5	1.9	2.7	21.6	5.4	100.0	
Tennessee	29.2	42.1	10.3	3.0	4.5	8.3	2.6	100.0	
Texas	40.3	23.8	15.4	2.5	4.0	5.4	8.6	100.0	
Virginia	43.8	22.8	8.6	1.8	1.7	16.1	5.2	100.0	
West Virginia	30.4	29.7	7.4	2.6	2.2	21.6	6.1	100.0	
South	38.5	25.5	11.4	2.1	3.8	13.3	5.4	100.0	
United States 1/	34.0	32.3	10.6	2.2	5.7	11.2	4.0	100.0	

1/ Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey

Table 7--Type of landowner: Distribution of ownership units and acres owned, farm and ranch land, by owner type, South 1/

Owner type	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
Sole proprietor	1,685	52.0	139.5	42.1
Husband-wife	1,205	37.2	98.5	29.7
Family partnership	212	6.6	44.8	13.5
Nonfamily partnership	37	1.1	6.9	2.1
Family corporation	16	.5	12.6	3.8
Nonfamily corporation	22	.7	10.3	3.1
Miscellaneous	63	1.9	19.0	5.7
South	3,240	100.0	331.6	100.0
United States <u>2/</u>	6,877	--	938.0	--

1/ Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

2/ Revised, excludes Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 8--Type of landowner: State distribution of acres owned, farm and ranch land, by owner type.

State	Owner type							
	Sole Proprietor	Husband- wife	Family Partnership	Nonfamily Partnership	Family Corporation	Nonfamily Corporation	Miscellaneous	Total
								Percent of acres
Alabama	44.6	33.6	12.8	2.0	2.1	2.7	2.2	100.0
Arkansas	36.4	39.4	14.1	1.0	4.8	1.7	2.6	100.0
Delaware	39.1	36.8	12.1	1.9	6.8	3.2	.1	100.0
Florida	22.6	22.8	12.1	3.3	13.2	20.7	5.3	100.0
Georgia	65.8	14.5	11.5	.9	1.6	1.5	4.2	100.0
Kentucky	46.0	37.4	10.0	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7	100.0
Louisiana	35.0	20.6	14.2	2.9	8.8	11.7	6.8	100.0
Maryland	36.1	47.6	6.2	1.8	2.1	4.1	2.1	100.0
Mississippi	54.9	24.0	11.7	1.5	2.8	2.3	2.8	100.0
North Carolina	37.5	40.1	12.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	4.6	100.0
Oklahoma	38.5	43.7	9.6	1.8	1.9	.7	3.8	100.0
South Carolina	60.9	12.9	13.2	2.2	3.1	3.4	4.3	100.0
Tennessee	32.4	45.6	13.4	2.5	2.9	1.7	1.5	100.0
Texas	40.6	25.5	16.2	2.3	4.3	2.0	9.1	100.0
Virginia	46.3	29.7	12.8	2.5	2.0	2.3	4.4	100.0
West Virginia	36.6	45.6	6.4	3.0	1.6	4.8	2.0	100.0
South	42.1	29.7	13.5	2.1	3.8	3.1	5.7	100.0
United States ^{1/}	35.8	35.7	12.1	2.0	6.6	3.9	3.9	100.0

^{1/}Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 9--Size of holding: Distribution of ownership units and acres owned, all land, by size of holding, South 1/

Size of holding	Ownership units			Acres owned		
	Thous.	Pct.	Accum. pct.	Millions	Pct.	Accum. pct.
Less than 10	10,816	77.02	77.02	20.0	3.84	3.84
10-49	1,595	11.36	88.38	37.6	7.22	11.06
50-69	316	2.25	90.63	18.4	3.53	14.59
70-99	346	2.47	93.10	28.4	5.46	20.05
100-139	260	1.85	94.95	29.7	5.72	25.77
140-179	198	1.41	96.36	31.2	6.00	31.77
180-259	182	1.30	97.66	39.0	7.50	39.27
260-499	192	1.37	99.03	67.3	12.93	52.20
500-999	84	.60	99.63	56.7	10.91	63.11
1,000-1,999	32	.22	99.85	42.2	8.11	71.22
2,000-2,999	9	.06	99.91	20.4	3.91	75.13
3,000-4,999	5	.04	99.95	19.0	3.66	78.79
5,000-9,999	4	.03	99.98	25.0	4.80	83.59
10,000 and over	3	.02	100.00	85.4	16.41	100.00
Total	14,042	100.00	--	520.3	100.00	--

-- = Not applicable

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 10--Size of holding: State concentration of landownership, all land

State	Proportion of acreage held by:	
	Largest 5 percent of owners	Largest 1 percent of owners
	<u>Percent</u>	
Alabama	72	46
Arkansas	72	49
Delaware	60	32
Florida	90	77
Georgia	73	45
Kentucky	53	23
Louisiana	80	58
Maryland	59	27
Mississippi	62	36
North Carolina	69	42
Oklahoma	61	35
South Carolina	67	42
Tennessee	58	36
Texas	71	47
Virginia	69	39
West Virginia	67	41
South	74	48
United States ^{1/}	75	48

^{1/}Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 11--Size of holding: Distribution of ownership units and acres owned, farm and ranch land, by size of holding, South 1/

Size of holding	Ownership units			Acres owned		
<u>Acres</u>	<u>Thous.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Accum. pct.</u>	<u>Millions</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Accum. pct.</u>
Less than 10	1,053	32.49	32.49	3.5	1.06	1.06
10-49	1,008	31.10	63.59	24.5	7.38	8.44
50-69	236	7.29	70.88	13.8	4.16	12.60
70-99	242	7.48	78.36	19.9	6.00	18.60
100-139	181	5.59	83.95	20.8	6.26	24.86
140-179	150	4.63	88.58	23.7	7.15	32.01
180-259	134	4.13	92.71	28.6	8.63	40.64
260-499	138	4.27	96.98	48.1	14.52	55.16
500-999	62	1.91	98.89	41.6	12.55	67.71
1,000-1,999	23	.70	99.59	30.3	9.13	76.84
2,000-2,999	6	.19	99.78	14.5	4.38	81.22
3,000-4,999	3	.10	99.88	12.1	3.66	84.88
5,000-9,999	2	.07	99.95	15.2	4.57	89.45
10,000 and over	2	.05	100.00	35.0	10.55	100.00
Total	3,240	100.00	--	331.6	100.00	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 12--Size of holding: State concentration of landownership, farm and ranch land.

State	Proportion of acreage held by:	
	Largest 5 percent of owners	Largest 1 percent of owners
		<u>Percent</u>
Alabama	46	23
Arkansas	43	21
Delaware	31	11
Florida	67	47
Georgia	42	18
Kentucky	35	15
Louisiana	51	29
Maryland	27	9
Mississippi	45	20
North Carolina	43	19
Oklahoma	38	18
South Carolina	35	17
Tennessee	34	15
Texas	57	36
Virginia	46	18
West Virginia	37	16
South	52	31
United States ^{1/}	52	30

^{1/}Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 13--Race: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by race, South 1/

Race <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	<u>Thous.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Million acres</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
White, non-Hispanic	10,555	79.0	362.0	88.9
Black, non-Hispanic	1,061	7.9	9.7	2.4
Hispanic	250	1.9	2.8	.7
Asian or Pacific Islander	10	.1	.2	<u>3/</u>
American Indian	71	.5	1.8	.4
Other	30	.2	.2	<u>3/</u>
No response	1,385	10.4	30.9	7.6
Subtotal	13,362	100.0	407.6	100.0
Corporations and large partnerships	680	--	112.7	--
Total	14,042	--	520.3	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/Sole owner or principal partner.

3/Less than .05 percent.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 14--Race: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by race 1/

State	Race							
	White, non-Hispanic	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian	Other	No response	Total
	Percent of acres							
Alabama	87.1	5.5	.2	--	.2	.3	6.7	100.0
Arkansas	87.1	2.8	.1	.1	.2	.1	9.6	100.0
Delaware	94.3	1.7	--	--	--	--	4.0	100.0
Florida	88.4	.8	1.6	--	--	--	9.2	100.0
Georgia	91.7	3.6	--	--	.1	.2	4.4	100.0
Kentucky	97.5	.5	--	--	--	--	2.0	100.0
Louisiana	89.9	3.5	--	--	.3	--	6.3	100.0
Maryland	91.7	1.3	--	--	.2	--	6.8	100.0
Mississippi	88.0	8.7	--	--	.1	--	3.2	100.0
North Carolina	92.5	4.3	--	--	.3	--	2.9	100.0
Oklahoma	87.4	.7	.1	--	3.8	.2	7.8	100.0
South Carolina	88.6	5.5	--	--	--	--	5.9	100.0
Tennessee	90.1	2.1	.6	--	--	--	7.2	100.0
Texas	87.1	.7	1.8	.1	.1	3/	10.2	100.0
Virginia	84.6	4.1	--	.1	--	--	11.2	100.0
West Virginia	91.8	.2	--	--	--	--	8.0	100.0
South	88.8	2.4	.7	3/	.4	.1	7.6	100.0
United States 4/	91.0	.9	.7	.1	.4	.1	6.8	100.0

-- = None reported.

1/ Sole owner or principal partner.

2/Including Pacific Islanders.

3/Less than .05 percent.

4/Revised, excluding Alaska.

Table 15--Age: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by age of owner, South 1/

Age <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
<u>Years</u>	<u>Thous.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Million acres</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Under 25	51	.4	1.7	.4
25-34	1,322	9.9	16.9	4.2
35-44	1,825	13.6	44.6	11.0
45-54	2,874	21.5	80.4	19.7
55-64	2,675	20.0	95.1	23.3
65 and over	2,895	21.7	126.5	31.0
No response	1,720	12.9	42.4	10.4
Subtotal	13,362	100.0	407.6	100.0
Corporations and large partnerships	680	--	112.7	--
Total	14,042	--	520.3	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/ Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/ Sole owner or principal partner.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 16--Age: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by age of owner 1/

-25-

State	Age (years)							Total
	Under 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	No response	
				Percent of acres				
Alabama	.1	2.9	10.2	19.6	22.8	35.1	9.3	100.0
Arkansas	.6	5.2	12.3	17.6	22.2	30.5	11.6	100.0
Delaware	.9	4.0	13.2	23.8	24.5	27.7	5.9	100.0
Florida	.2	5.1	8.9	21.3	23.2	26.8	14.5	100.0
Georgia	.2	4.3	11.4	22.3	25.8	28.0	8.0	100.0
Kentucky	1.2	7.0	13.2	22.9	24.6	27.5	3.6	100.0
Louisiana	--	4.7	10.5	21.7	20.1	33.3	9.7	100.0
Maryland	.2	5.6	10.8	25.6	22.5	24.5	10.8	100.0
Mississippi	.6	3.8	12.1	20.2	22.7	34.2	6.4	100.0
North Carolina	.2	4.0	10.2	22.3	26.8	30.9	5.6	100.0
Oklahoma	.1	4.6	12.3	19.7	21.5	32.3	9.5	100.0
South Carolina	.2	2.3	8.4	20.6	30.2	29.1	9.2	100.0
Tennessee	.2	4.1	15.2	19.1	18.0	33.2	10.2	100.0
Texas	.5	3.5	9.5	17.9	24.0	31.8	12.8	100.0
Virginia	1.1	3.8	12.2	20.8	18.5	26.6	17.0	100.0
West Virginia	.3	5.5	10.4	17.8	27.9	28.6	9.5	100.0
South	.4	4.2	11.0	19.7	23.3	31.0	10.4	100.0
United States 2/	.4	5.0	12.5	21.3	23.6	28.1	9.1	100.0

-- = None reported.

1/ Sole owner or principal partner.

2/ Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 FSCS Landownership Survey

Table 17--Sex: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by sex of landowners, South 1/

Sex <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
Male	9,507	71.1	306.7	75.2
Female	2,682	20.1	72.6	17.8
No response	1,173	8.8	28.3	7.0
Subtotal	13,362	100.0	407.6	100.0
Corporations and large partnerships	680	--	112.7	--
Total	14,042	--	520.3	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/ Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

2/ Sole owner or principal partner.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 18--Sex: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by sex of landowner 1/

State	Sex			
	Male	Female	No response	Total
	<u>Percent of acres</u>			
Alabama	75.3	19.2	5.5	100.0
Arkansas	71.7	18.1	10.2	100.0
Delaware	78.4	17.2	4.4	100.0
Florida	74.9	18.0	7.1	100.0
Georgia	80.4	18.8	.8	100.0
Kentucky	83.6	14.4	2.0	100.0
Louisiana	74.0	19.9	6.1	100.0
Maryland	84.9	9.2	5.9	100.0
Mississippi	77.5	19.2	3.3	100.0
North Carolina	76.0	21.0	3.0	100.0
Oklahoma	74.1	18.8	7.1	100.0
South Carolina	74.6	19.3	6.1	100.0
Tennessee	77.2	17.4	5.4	100.0
Texas	72.3	17.1	10.6	100.0
Virginia	74.4	19.3	6.3	100.0
West Virginia	81.0	12.1	6.9	100.0
South	75.2	17.8	7.0	100.0
United States <u>2/</u>	78.9	14.7	6.4	100.0

1/ Sole owner or principal partner.

2/ Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 19--Method of acquisition: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by method of acquisition, South 1/

Method of acquisition	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	<u>Thous.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Million acres</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Purchased from nonrelative	8,180	58.3	269.5	51.8
Inherited	1,705	12.1	108.3	20.8
Purchased from relative	2,254	16.1	63.9	12.3
Gift	359	2.5	12.4	2.4
Other	168	1.2	10.3	2.0
No response	1,376	9.8	55.9	10.7
Total	14,042	100.0	520.3	100.0

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 20--Method of acquisition: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by method of acquisition

State	Method of acquisition						Total
	Purchased from		Inherited	Gift	Other	No response	
	non- relative	relative					
	Percent of acres						
Alabama	50.1	13.8	20.0	2.1	1.7	12.3	100.0
Arkansas	56.1	13.5	11.9	1.6	1.6	15.3	100.0
Delaware	61.0	10.6	14.6	3.4	3.2	7.2	100.0
Florida	71.4	4.5	10.3	1.3	1.7	10.8	100.0
Georgia	54.8	12.4	20.0	2.9	3.4	6.5	100.0
Kentucky	58.8	18.5	14.8	1.3	.5	6.1	100.0
Louisiana	60.4	8.9	18.7	2.0	1.5	8.5	100.0
Maryland	69.3	14.6	9.9	.3	1.3	4.6	100.0
Mississippi	41.6	16.9	21.1	1.8	1.3	17.3	100.0
North Carolina	45.5	16.1	25.9	2.1	3.2	7.2	100.0
Oklahoma	57.1	9.1	18.5	3.7	.7	10.9	100.0
South Carolina	53.6	10.4	23.0	1.6	2.8	8.6	100.0
Tennessee	56.5	16.7	14.9	.9	1.9	9.1	100.0
Texas	44.6	10.6	27.3	3.2	2.4	11.9	100.0
Virginia	49.3	15.8	20.2	2.0	1.0	11.7	100.0
West Virginia	52.5	15.8	17.7	2.3	2.5	9.2	100.0
South	51.8	12.3	20.8	2.4	2.0	10.7	100.0
United States ^{1/}	55.0	14.7	16.7	2.4	2.1	9.1	100.0

^{1/}Revised, excluding Alaska

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 21--Period of land acquisition: Distribution of acres owned, all land, by period, South 1/

Period	Acres owned	
	<u>Million acres</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
1970-78	122.3	23.5
1960-69	105.1	20.2
1950-59	79.4	15.3
1940-49	59.6	11.4
Before 1940	82.0	15.8
No response	71.9	13.8
Total	520.3	100.0

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 22--Period of land acquisition: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by period

State	Period						Total
	1970-78	1960-69	1950-59	1940-49	Before 1940	No response	
	Percent of acres						
Alabama	16.4	16.0	16.4	13.9	21.4	15.9	100.0
Arkansas	22.7	19.4	16.6	10.5	9.7	21.1	100.0
Delaware	30.8	20.4	19.3	14.0	9.7	5.8	100.0
Florida	21.2	19.4	14.8	7.3	10.3	27.0	100.0
Georgia	24.0	21.0	19.2	12.6	10.5	12.7	100.0
Kentucky	32.0	22.3	19.5	12.7	10.0	3.5	100.0
Louisiana	20.1	15.4	13.3	9.0	28.0	14.2	100.0
Maryland	17.2	38.3	22.0	8.0	9.7	4.8	100.0
Mississippi	19.6	20.5	17.1	12.3	15.6	14.9	100.0
North Carolina	26.8	19.1	15.6	11.7	18.2	8.6	100.0
Oklahoma	26.8	21.1	15.6	12.2	11.3	13.0	100.0
South Carolina	20.5	18.9	16.6	13.3	12.6	18.1	100.0
Tennessee	25.3	24.1	16.3	10.4	14.8	9.1	100.0
Texas	23.7	20.1	12.6	11.6	19.2	12.8	100.0
Virginia	26.0	20.9	15.2	12.8	9.4	15.7	100.0
West Virginia	23.3	21.7	14.7	9.2	16.9	14.2	100.0
South	23.5	20.2	15.3	11.4	15.8	13.8	100.0
United States ^{1/}	25.8	23.1	15.9	11.7	13.8	9.7	100.0

^{1/}Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 23--Residence of landowners: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by place of residence, South 1/

Place of residence <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
Same county	11,818	84.2	334.8	64.4
Other county, same state	996	7.1	110.9	21.3
Other state	479	3.4	43.1	8.3
Outside United States	<u>3/</u>	<u>4/</u>	.1	<u>4/</u>
No response	749	5.3	31.4	6.0
Total	14,042	100.0	520.3	100.0

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

2/Relative to owned land reported on.

3/Less than 500

4/Less than .05 percent.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 24--Residence of landowners: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by place of residence

State	Place of residence <u>1/</u>				
	Same county	Other county, same state	Out-of-State <u>2/</u>	No response	Total
	Percent of acres				
Alabama	68.9	18.1	5.2	7.8	100.0
Arkansas	63.9	12.1	14.9	9.1	100.0
Delaware	84.6	4.3	6.5	4.6	100.0
Florida	49.3	33.2	15.6	1.9	100.0
Georgia	68.6	21.2	7.5	2.7	100.0
Kentucky	82.1	10.5	5.2	2.2	100.0
Louisiana	52.8	22.8	22.9	1.5	100.0
Maryland	71.8	14.7	8.5	5.0	100.0
Mississippi	68.6	12.7	7.1	11.6	100.0
North Carolina	74.3	14.7	6.5	4.5	100.0
Oklahoma	70.5	11.4	10.6	7.5	100.0
South Carolina	66.0	18.9	10.2	4.9	100.0
Tennessee	77.6	11.9	7.3	3.2	100.0
Texas	57.1	31.8	3.5	7.6	100.0
Virginia	67.1	17.7	12.3	2.9	100.0
West Virginia	64.7	13.9	11.0	10.4	100.0
South	64.4	21.3	8.3	6.0	100.0
United States <u>3/</u>	69.5	18.1	7.9	4.5	100.0

1/Relative to owned land reported on.

2/Including foreign residence.

3/Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 25--Educational level of landowners: Distribution of owners and acres owned, all land, by years of schooling, South 1/

Years of schooling <u>2/</u>	Ownership units		Acres owned	
	Thous.	Pct.	Million acres	Pct.
8 or fewer	2,832	21.2	69.9	17.2
9-11	1,555	11.6	50.7	12.4
12	3,220	24.1	86.0	21.1
13-15	1,558	11.7	57.8	14.2
16 or more	1,905	14.3	81.6	20.0
No response	2,292	17.1	61.6	15.1
Subtotal	13,362	100.0	407.6	100.0
Corporations and large partnerships	680	--	112.7	--
Total	14,042	--	520.3	--

-- = Not applicable.

1/Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

2/Sole owner or principal partner.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

Table 26--Educational level of landowners: State distribution of acres owned, all land, by years of schooling 1/

State	8 or fewer	9-11	12	13-15	16 or more	No response	Total
	<u>Percent of acres</u>						
Alabama	19.1	14.2	25.9	12.3	17.7	10.8	100.0
Arkansas	20.8	11.1	25.2	13.2	14.4	15.3	100.0
Delaware	10.1	14.7	44.6	10.1	7.8	12.7	100.0
Florida	11.1	9.2	27.0	13.3	20.9	18.5	100.0
Georgia	17.2	20.6	15.5	16.2	20.6	9.9	100.0
Kentucky	35.1	9.7	29.2	6.8	12.5	6.7	100.0
Louisiana	19.6	10.0	22.9	14.3	22.1	11.1	100.0
Maryland	14.6	20.0	24.3	8.6	21.1	11.4	100.0
Mississippi	18.5	9.6	21.9	16.4	24.4	9.2	100.0
North Carolina	22.3	17.1	19.9	14.2	17.3	9.2	100.0
Oklahoma	18.2	9.3	26.8	16.3	17.2	12.2	100.0
South Carolina	14.5	17.8	17.7	14.6	25.4	10.0	100.0
Tennessee	25.4	11.6	22.1	10.1	16.1	14.7	100.0
Texas	9.4	11.7	16.8	16.7	24.2	21.2	100.0
Virginia	20.2	13.1	18.8	9.4	16.3	22.2	100.0
West Virginia	30.1	10.5	22.6	9.6	13.0	14.2	100.0
South	17.2	12.4	21.1	14.2	20.0	15.1	100.0
United States <u>2/</u>	17.6	10.6	27.5	14.2	17.5	12.6	100.0

1/Sole owner or principal partner.

2/Revised, excluding Alaska.

Source: 1978 ESCS Landownership Survey.

